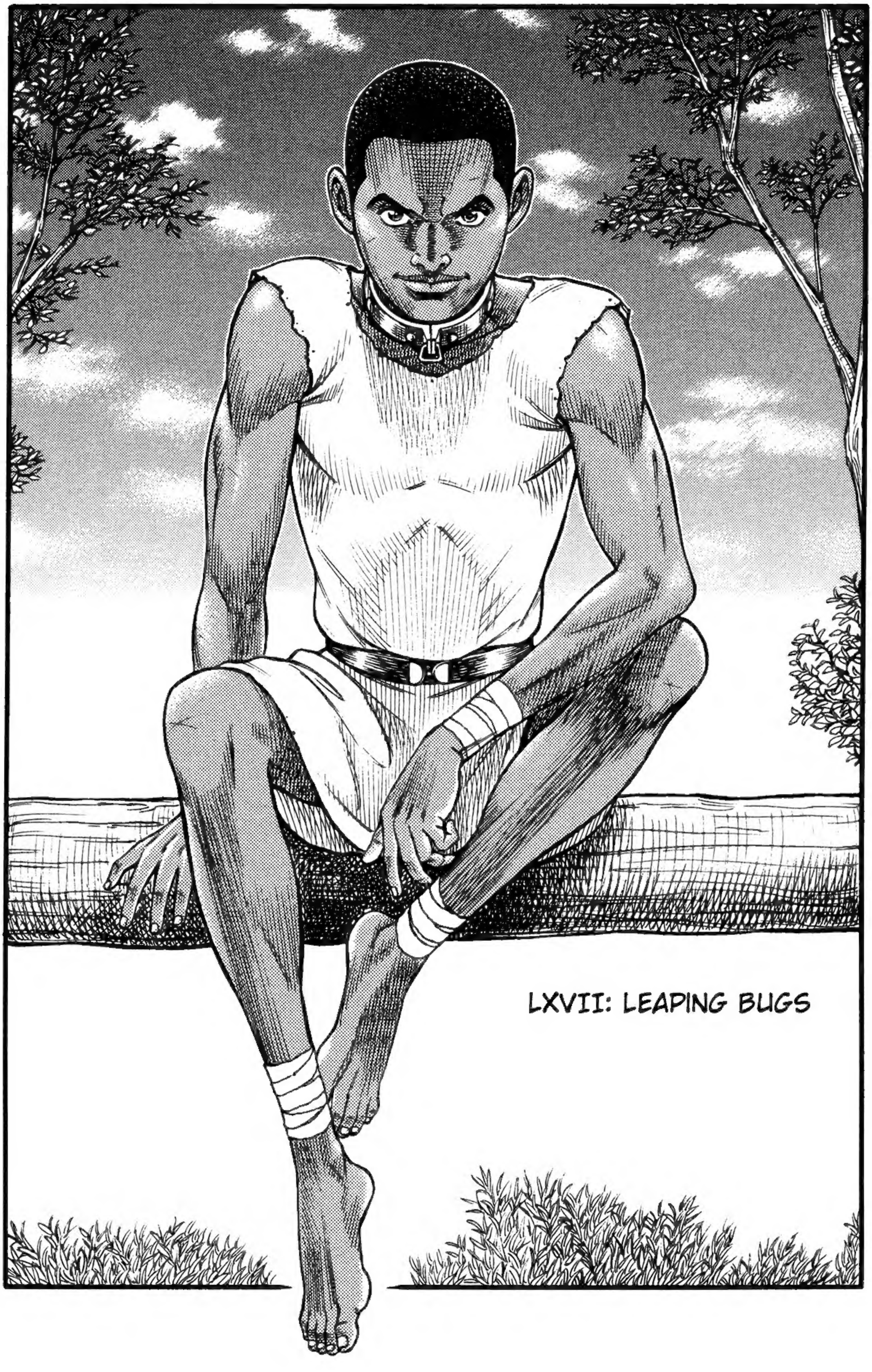


LXVII: LEAPING BUGS

DON'T LOOK ELSEWHERE CESTVS!

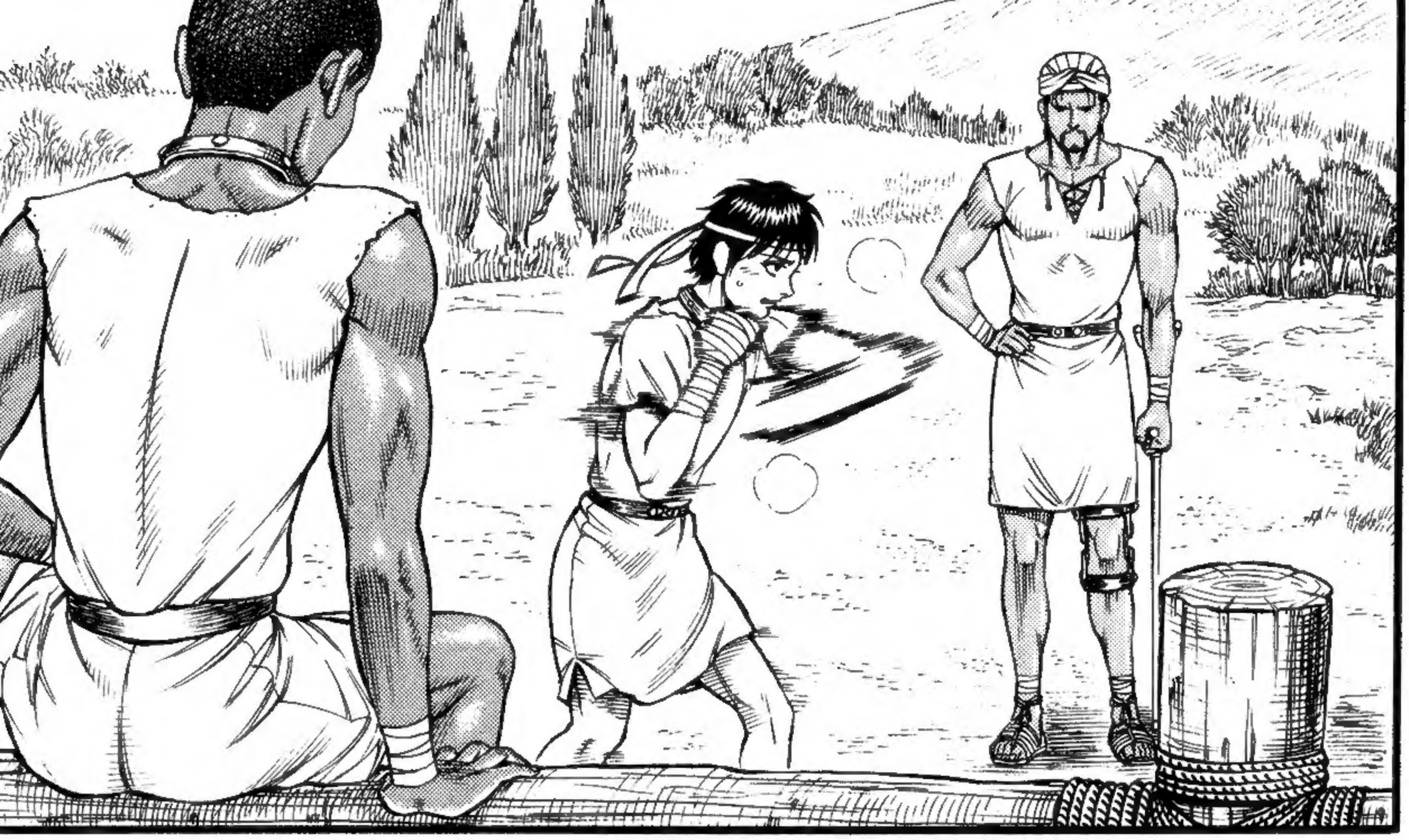
I DON'T RECALL SAYING IT WAS OKAY FOR YOU TO STOP!

YES SIR...

...

IT DOESN'T LOOK AS THOUGH HE'S WATCHING WITH THE INTENTION OF INTERFERING BUT...

SO THERE WAS ANOTHER YOUNG SLAVE HERE...



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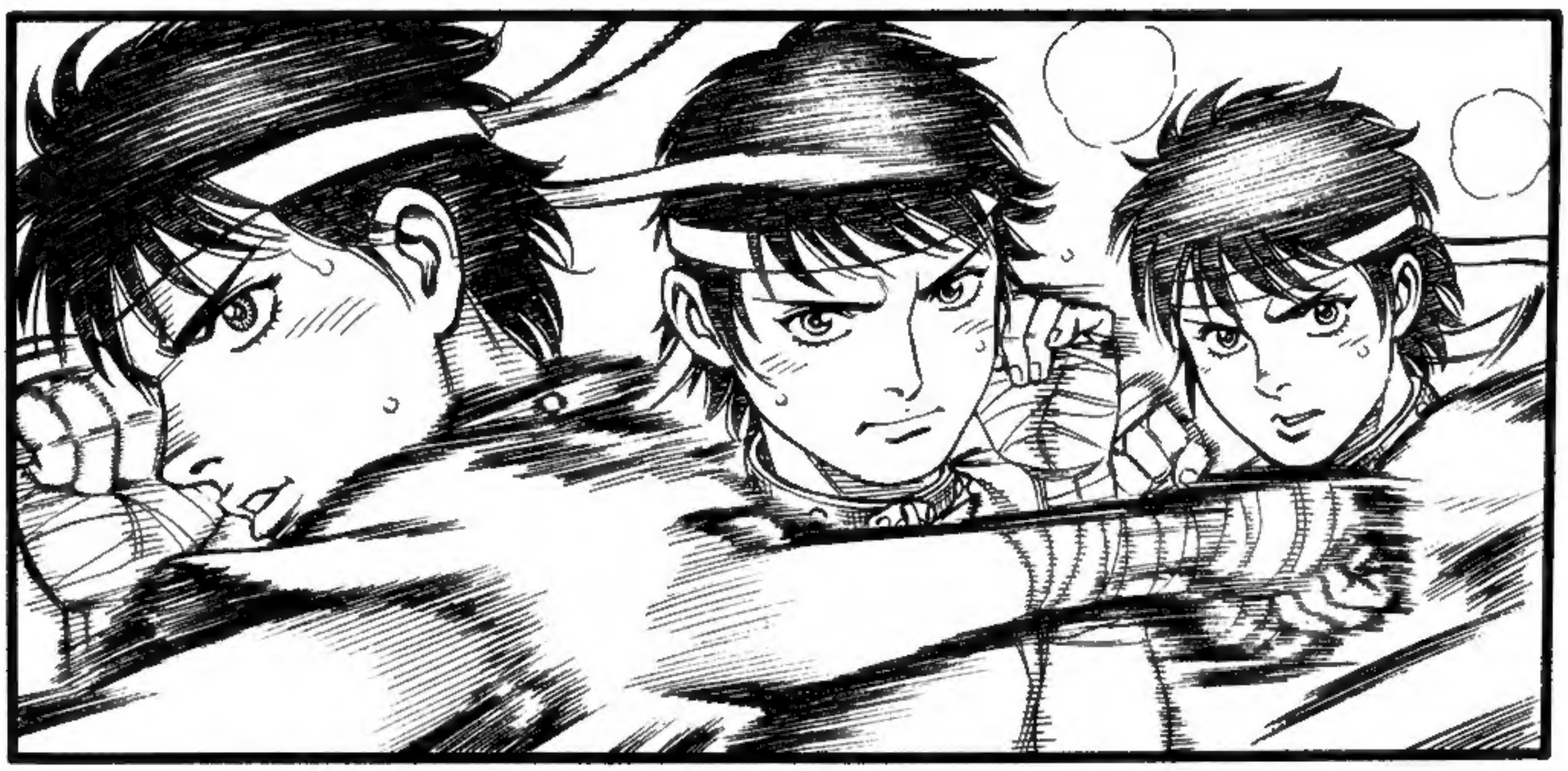

TWITCH.

...

TWITCH.

TWITCH.

TWITCH.

TWITCH.

ｽｶｰ…

HMPH...

HE HAS THE SOLID EYE OF ANOTHER COMPETITOR.

JUST WHO IS THE BOY?!

THOSE SLIGHT MUSCLE TWITCHES OF HIS...

HE'S COPYING CESTVS' MOVEMENTS IN HIS HEAD AS HE FOLLOWS WITH HIS GAZE.

!

YOU AIN'T NOTHING SPECIAL.

ﾅﾝﾔ!

ﾅﾝﾔ!!

ﾚｲﾅｽﾞ...

WHAT'S WITH THAT COLD ATTITUDE.

I DON'T LIKE HIM.

ﾅﾝﾔ!!

THEY LOOK PRETTY TASTY...

RECKON IT'D BE OKAY TO "ACCIDENTALLY" EAT A FEW?

WHO LEFT THEIR STUFF HEEERE?!

OOOOI, WHO WAS IT?!

THAT'S RIGHT... THE WHOLE AREA HERE'S FILLED WITH VINEYARDS.

THERE'S A TON OF GRAPES IN THERE.

GEEZ, WHAT A PAIN.

IS THIS YOURS...?

DON'T TOUCH THEM WITH YOUR FILTHY HANDS!

AH...

OI!

HOLD IT THERE YOU LOT!

IF YOU ATE EVEN A SINGLE ONE...

THOSE ARE REAL IMPORTANT TO ME, THEY'RE WORTH FOOD!

I'LL KILL YOU BASTARDS!

OWAH!

MOVE!

HEH... IT'S FINE YOU SAYING ALL THAT...

BUT TO JUST LEAVE THEM HERE THEN ACT ALL FULL OF YOURSELF...

YOU WANNA START SOME-THING?

WOAH THERE.

THE HELL WAS THAT?!

LISTEN UP.

I'LL HAPPILY FACE YOU WHENEVER YOU WANT.

UH...

WHAT'S HIS PROBLEM...

I'M A LITTLE INTERESTED IN HOW GOOD YOU ARE.

YOU LOT ARE ONLY BOXERS IN THE MAKING.

I COULD GO FOR SOME SNACKS WITH IT.

MMM, THIS REALLY IS A DELICIOUS WINE.

ARE YOU SLACKING OFF TO FIGHT AGAIN?!

STOP THAT ZORA!

...

ENOUGH ALREADY. ANYMORE AND I'LL HAVE YOU SOLD OFF.

SECONDS PLEASE.

...!

MOVE.

THIS AIN'T A SHOW.

YOU GOT LUCKY.

OI.

TCH.

!

I WAS SPA-RED...

HE MAKES THAT BIG LOAD LOOK LIGHT...!

NO WAY...

CERTAINLY SEEMS A STRONG AND LIVELY KID.

ONE OF YOUR FIELD WORKERS?

HE REALLY IS A TROUBLE-SOME ONE.

DESPITE BEING A KID, HE WON'T LISTEN AT ALL TO ADULT'S ORDERS.

HE'S A PROBLEM CHILD, QUICK TO SNAP, QUICK TO KICK OUT.

IS AN ETHIOPIAN WE'VE HAD WORKING FOR US FOR A YEAR NOW.

THAT ZORA...

OH...!

HE'S GROWN USED TO NOT OPENING HIS HEART TO ANYONE.

IT'S OBVIOUS YOU'D END UP ALONE IF YOU SPEAK IN SUCH A DISAGREEABLE WAY.

IT SEEMS LIKE HE WAS RAISED TO NOT SOCIALISE MUCH WITH OTHERS...

HE'S JUST LIKE...

A WILD DOG, WHO'LL SNAP AT ANYONE.

I IMAGINE MUCH OF HIS EARLY LIFE WAS WROUGHT BY MISFORTUNE.

A WONDERFUL, INTENSE SCENT HAS COME OVER ME..!

A PROBLEM CHILD EH, GREAT... YES...

IT IS, SOMETHING BIG!

HEY, IS SOMETHING GOING ON?

HM?

HM?

HMMM?

WHAT? WHAT?

EH?!

GEEZ, IT'S ALWAYS GETTY IN TROUBLE...

DON'T DAWDLE!

AH!

OI, SLOW ASS. WATER!

HURRY UP AND BRING ME SOME!

ELSE I'LL LEAVE YOU HALF FOR DEAD!

DON'T PUSH, LINE UP AND TAKE IT IN TURNS.

MM, SURE.

COULD YOU TAKE THIS TO MONSON.

HEY CESTVS.

?

RECENTLY HE'S BEEN ODD, SORTA TROUBLED...

JUST TAKE CARE.

MAKE SURE YOU BASTARDS PUT YOUR BOWLS BACK PROPERLY!

ELSE I'LL KILL YOU FULLY!

ALL OF THE VETERANS HAVE LOOKED RATHER DOWN AND IRRITATED.

SPEAKING OF WHICH, I WONDER WHY SINCE COMING HERE...

FIGHTING WITH HARD GLOVES WAS A BRUTAL AFFAIR, AND THE FIGHTERS FACED MANY EXTERNAL INJURIES.

PROOF OF LONG SERVICE CAME IN THE FORM OF OUTER CANTHI AND EYEBROWS CRUSHED BY BLOWS, AND EARS DEFORMED BY NUMEROUS INCIDENTS OF INTERNAL BLEEDING.

HOWEVER, THOSE WERE NOT THE ONLY DANGERS FACED BY THE BOXERS.

HEY.

CHEERS.

MON-SON.

I BROUGHT YOU SOME FOOD.

THE...

SHIT, AGAIN!

THE BLOODY BUGS ARE LEAPING ALL OVER!

!

HE ALWAYS HAS SUCH A MENACING, DARK LOOK TO HIM.

UUH... WHENEVER I SEE HIM...

...

BUGS YOU SAY..?!

EH?

BUT THERE AREN'T ANY BUGS HERE.